

## EXHIBIT N – GUIDELINES – DESCRIPTION OF CERTIFICATION LEVELS

### DESCRIPTION OF CERTIFICATION LEVELS

\* Denotes certification not recognized for ASL contract

#### **National Interpreter Certification (NIC)**

Source: Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf

This is a pass or fail test. The Interview (evaluating decision making skills) and Performance parts of the test (on tape- not a live panel) will be at the same time, evaluating BOTH interpreting AND transliterating (no CI and CT differentiation-they will be combined). The test is weighted in performance. If someone passes any of the tests they can take the SC:L examination.

The three certification levels are:

#### Certified Interpreter

Basic, professionally skilled interpreter. This interpreter is certified to interpret in almost any setting.

#### Certified Advanced Interpreter

Scored higher on the performance aspect of the test than the Certified Interpreter.

#### Certified Expert Interpreter

Scored higher on the performance AND the interview than the Certified Interpreter.

#### **National Association of the Deaf (NAD) Certification**

Source: [www.idhhc.state.il.us/interpreter/certifications.htm](http://www.idhhc.state.il.us/interpreter/certifications.htm)

#### \* Level-I (Novice I)

The individual who attains this level possesses good voice-to-sign skills but may not know the appropriate sign for everything needed. Also, the individual possess minimal sign-to-voice skills and may fingerspell more than necessary.

#### \* Level-II (Novice II)

The individual who attains this level possesses good voice-to-sign skills and fingerspells less than those who possess Novice I skills. The individual possess fair sign-to-voice skills, may lag behind farther than is comfortable, and delete more than is acceptable.

#### Level-III (Generalist)

The individual who attains this level possesses above average voice-to-sign skills, and good sign-to-voice skills, & demonstrates the interpreting skills necessary for some situations.

#### Level-IV (Advanced)

The individual who attains this level possesses excellent voice-to-sign skills and above average sign-to-voice skills, & demonstrates the interpreting skill necessary for most situations.

#### Level-V (Master Superior)

The individual who attains this level possesses superior voice-to-sign skills and excellent sign-to-voice skills, & demonstrates the interpreting Skill necessary for just about all situations.

#### **Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID) Certification**

Source: [www.rid.org](http://www.rid.org)

#### CI (Certificate of Interpretation)

Holders of this certificate are recognized as fully certified in Interpretation and have demonstrated the ability to interpret between American Sign Language (ASL) and spoken English in both sign-to-voice and voice-to-sign. The interpreter's ability to transliterate is not considered in this

certification. Holders of the CI are recommended for a broad range of interpretation assignments. This test is currently available.

#### CT (Certificate of Transliteration)

Holders of this certificate are recognized as fully certified in Transliteration and have demonstrated the ability to transliterate between English-based sign language and spoken English in both sign-to-voice and voice-to-sign. The transliterator's ability to interpret is not considered in this certification. Holders of the CT are recommended for a broad range of transliteration assignments. This test is currently available.

#### CI and CT (Certificate of Interpretation and Certificate of Transliteration)

Holders of both full certificates (as listed above) have demonstrated competence in both interpretation and transliteration. Holders of the CI and CT are recommended for a broad range of interpretation and transliteration assignments.

#### \* CLIP (Conditional Legal Interpreting Permit)

Holders of this conditional permit completed an RID recognized training program designed for interpreters and transliterators who work in legal settings. Generalist certification (CI and CT, or CSC) was required prior to enrollment in the training program. Holders of this conditional permit are recommended for a broad range of assignments in the legal setting. The CLIP is no longer available.

#### CLIP-R (Conditional Legal Interpreting Permit-Relay)

Holders of this conditional permit have completed an RID recognized training program designed for interpreters and transliterators who work in legal settings and who are also Deaf or hard-of-hearing. Generalist certification for interpreters/translitterators who are Deaf or hard-of-hearing (RSC, CDI-P, or CDI) is required prior to enrollment in the training program. This permit is valid until one year after the Specialist Certificate: Legal written and performance test for Deaf interpreters is available nationally. CLIP-R holders must take and pass the new legal certification examination in order to maintain certification in the specialized area of interpreting in legal settings. Holders of this conditional permit are recommended for a broad range of assignments in the legal setting. The CLIP-R is still offered.

#### \* CDI-P (Certified Deaf Interpreter-Provisional)

Holders of this provisional certification are interpreters who are Deaf or hard-of-hearing and who have demonstrated a minimum of one year experience working as an interpreter, completion of at least 8 hours of training on the RID Code of Ethics, and 8 hours of training in general interpretation as it relates to the interpreter who is Deaf or hard-of-hearing. Holders of this certificate are recommended for a broad range of assignments where an interpreter who is Deaf or hard-of-hearing would be beneficial. The CDI-P is no longer available.

#### CDI (Certified Deaf Interpreter)

Holders of this certification are interpreters who are Deaf or hard-of-hearing and who have completed at least 8 hours of training on the RID Code of Ethics, and 8 hours of training in general interpretation as it relates to the interpreter who is Deaf or hard-of-hearing and have passed a comprehensive combination written and performance test. Holders of this certificate are recommended for a broad range of assignments where an interpreter who is Deaf or hard-of-hearing would be beneficial. This test is currently available.

#### CSC (Comprehensive Skills Certificate)

Holders of this full certificate have demonstrated the ability to interpret between American Sign Language and spoken English and to transliterate between spoken English and an English-based sign language. Holders of this certificate are recommended for a broad range of interpreting and transliterating assignments. The CSC examination was offered until 1987. This test is no longer offered.

#### MCSC (Master Comprehensive Skills Certificate)

The MCSC examination was designed with the intent of testing for a higher standard of performance than the CSC. Holders of this certificate were required to hold the CSC prior to taking this exam. Holders of this certificate are recommended for a broad range of interpreting and transliterating assignments. This certificate is no longer offered.

#### RSC (Reverse Skills Certificate)

Holders of this full certificate demonstrated the ability to interpret between American Sign Language and English-based sign language or transliterate between spoken English and a signed code for English. Holders of this certificate are Deaf or hard-of-hearing and interpretation/transliteration is rendered in American Sign Language, spoken English, a signed code for English or written English. Holders of the RSC are recommended for a broad range of interpreting assignments where the use of an interpreter who is Deaf or hard-of-hearing would be beneficial. This certificate is no longer offered. People interested in this area should take the CDI exam.

#### SC:L (Specialist Certificate: Legal)

Holders of this specialist certificate have demonstrated specialized knowledge of legal settings and greater familiarity with language used in the legal system. Generalist certification and documented training and experience is required prior to sitting for this exam. Holders of the SC:L are recommended for a broad range of assignments in the legal setting. This test is currently available.

#### \* Prov. SC:L (Provisional Specialist Certificate: Legal)

Holders of this provisional certificate hold generalist certification and have completed RID approved legal training. Holders of this certificate are recommended for assignments in the legal setting. Prov. SC:L is no longer available.

#### \* SC:PA (Specialist Certificate: Performing Arts)

Holders of this certificate were required to hold RID generalist certification (CSC) prior to sitting for this examination and have demonstrated specialized knowledge in performing arts interpretation. Holders of this certificate are recommended for a broad range of assignments in the performing arts setting. The SC:PA is no longer offered.

#### OTC (Oral Transliteration Certificate)

Holders of this generalist certificate have demonstrated, using silent oral techniques and natural gestures, the ability to transliterate a spoken message from a person who hears to a person who is deaf or hard-of-hearing and the ability to understand and repeat the message and intent of the speech and mouth movements of the person who is deaf or hard-of-hearing. This test is currently available.

#### OIC:C (Oral Interpreting Certificate: Comprehensive)

Holders of this generalist certificate demonstrated the ability to transliterate a spoken message from a person who hears to a person who is deaf or hard-of-hearing and the ability to understand and repeat the message and intent of the speech and mouth movements of the person who is deaf or hard-of-hearing. This certification is no longer offered. Individuals wishing oral certification should take the OTC exam noted above.

#### \* OIC:S/V (Oral Interpreting Certificate: Spoken to Visible)

Holders of this partial certificate demonstrated the ability to transliterate a spoken message from a person who hears to a person who is deaf or hard-of-hearing. This individual received scores on the OIC:C examination which prevented the awarding of full OIC:C certification. The OIC:S/V is no longer offered. Individuals wishing oral certification should take the OTC exam noted above.

#### \* OIC:V/S (Oral Interpreting Certificate: Visible to Spoken)

Holders of this partial certificate demonstrated ability to understand the speech and silent mouth movements of a person who is deaf or hard-of-hearing and to repeat the message for a hearing person. This individual received scores on the OIC:C examination which prevented the awarding of full OIC:C certification. The OIC:V/S is no longer offered. Individuals wishing oral certification should take the OTC exam noted above.

IC/TC (Interpretation Certificate/Transliteration Certificate)

Holders of this partial certificate demonstrated ability to transliterate between English and a signed code for English and the ability to interpret between American Sign Language and spoken English. This individual received scores on the CSC examination which prevented the awarding of full CSC certification. The IC/TC is no longer offered.

IC (Interpretation Certificate)

Holder of this partial certificate demonstrated ability to interpret between American Sign Language and spoken English. This individual received scores on the CSC examination which prevented the awarding of full CSC certification or partial IC/TC certification. The IC was formerly known as the Expressive Interpreting Certificate (EIC). The IC is no longer offered.

TC (Transliteration Certificate)

Holders of this partial certificate demonstrated the ability to transliterate between spoken English and a signed code for English. This individual received scores on the CSC examination which prevented the awarding of full CSC certification or IC/TC certification. The TC was formerly known as the Expressive Transliterating Certificate (ETC). The TC is no longer offered